1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA			
2	FOR THE MIDI	DIE DISIKIC	I OF NORTH CAROLINA	
3	UNITED STATES OF AMER	ICA,	Criminal Action	
4	Plaintiff,			
5	VS.		Greensboro, North Carolina November 9, 2007	
6	DANILO QUESADA-GUERRERO,  Defendant.		9:35 a.m. Pages 57 - 80	
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8	/			
9	VOLUME II			
10	TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING PROCEEDINGS			
11	BEFORE THE HONORABLE N. CARLTON TILLEY, JR.			
12	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE			
13	APPEARANCES:			
14	For the Government:		ALYON, ESQUIRE United States Attorney	
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23	P 3 '			
24	Proceedings reported by stenotype reporter. Transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.			
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- 1 (Defendant is present.)
- THE COURT: Mr. Galyon.
- 3 MR. GALYON: First matter for the Court this morning
- 4 is 1:07CR43-1. It's United States of America versus
- 5 Quesada-Guerrero. Your Honor, he's represented by Charles
- 6 White.
- 7 Ms. Bojanini is here for purposes of translation. The
- 8 matter is on for imposition of sentence.
- 9 THE COURT: Ms. Bojanini was sworn last time, so I
- 10 don't believe we need to redo that this time. Thank you for
- 11 being here.
- 12 There was to be evidence, or we're just here to talk
- 13 about the obstruction?
- MR. GALYON: That's correct, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: No further evidence?
- 16 MR. WHITE: No further evidence for the Defendant,
- 17 Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Mr. Galyon, why don't I hear from you with
- 19 regard to obstruction, and then I'll hear from Mr. White with
- 20 regard to that, and then with regard to whether or not if
- 21 obstruction is found, that would impact on the finding of
- 22 acceptance of responsibility.
- 23 MR. GALYON: Your Honor, as to obstruction under
- 24 3(c)1.1, I would argue that there are -- would be bases in terms
- 25 of the commentary notes for 4B and F. B refers to a covered

- 1 reason for providing for the obstruction enhancement based on
- 2 committing perjury that pertains to conduct that forms the basis
- 3 of the offensive conviction, and note F talks about the
- 4 obstruction enhancement is appropriate if the individual
- 5 provides materially falls information to a judge or magistrate;
- 6 and the Court, during our hearing on Wednesday, sort of
- 7 mentioned the three areas that really are the issue that I think
- 8 impact on obstruction:
- 9 One is the Defendant's denial about putting the gun in
- 10 Ms. Thilo's side, because that is the basis for an enhancement
- 11 that is certainly relevant conduct. I think that that could be
- 12 one of the grounds. Certainly there was credible testimony
- 13 regarding that.
- 14 In addition, the Defendant's denial, false denial
- 15 about pointing the gun at Officer Gill, and the fact that that,
- 16 too, is the basis for a six level enhancement, which is
- 17 certainly relevant conduct as well.
- 18 Lastly, his denial of statements to Detective Williams
- 19 subsequent to his arrest, but before the immunity agreement was
- 20 in place regarding the 100 kilos, he claimed that he never made
- 21 that statement. He also initially denied during his testimony
- 22 that he made any statement about 30 kilos payment being included
- 23 in the tractor trailer that was stopped, and then during cross,
- 24 he did admit that he told the officer that there was money in
- 25 the truck, but that he didn't have anything to do with that,

1 despite his admission that he, of course, knew the driver of the

- 2 truck, that there had been phone contact between them
- 3 immediately after the stop of the tractor trailer by law
- 4 enforcement, the fact that the Defendant admits that he knew
- 5 that the officers had attempted to search but found nothing, so
- 6 all of those things certainly don't square in terms of his
- 7 statements, and I would argue that that, too, can be a basis for
- 8 obstruction, because he, this Defendant, by swearing an oath and
- 9 then testifying before the Court falsely, I think puts himself
- 10 at risk of the obstruction enhancement.
- 11 In addition to that, Your Honor, his claim even on the
- 12 stand that the codefendant Sosa-Dominguez was not involved,
- 13 didn't have anything to do with the conspiracy can also be a
- 14 basis.
- 15 Fourth Circuit case United States versus Keiland, 360
- 16 F. 3d. 456, a 2004 case out of this circuit indicating false
- 17 statement regarding culpability of a codefendant is also
- 18 sufficient to support an enhancement for obstruction, and I
- 19 would argue that, too, is sort at the heart of the issue
- 20 regarding this Defendant's denials about his involvement,
- 21 really, in the conspiracy, and the involvement of others in the
- 22 conspiracy as well.
- 23 So, I would argue that under those various grounds,
- 24 that the 3(c)1.1 obstruction enhancement would be appropriate.
- 25 If the Court wants me to, I only have a very short

1 comment related to the denial of acceptance. If the Court wants

- 2 me to address that, I will.
- 3 THE COURT: Remember, acceptance is the Defendant's
- 4 burden to prove. I will let you, since you have the floor, go
- 5 ahead and make it.
- 6 MR. GALYON: The only other part about that is the
- 7 false denial, of course, of relevant conduct, and denial of the
- 8 conspiracy would be a basis for denial of acceptance, and in
- 9 particular, that commentary note four in 3E1.1 talks about only
- 10 in the extraordinary case where an individual can, if the person
- 11 gets obstruction, can then get acceptance as well, and I would
- 12 argue that this is not an extraordinary case, that what we've
- 13 seen based on the Defendant's own testimony on Wednesday is,
- 14 clear evidence of the fact that he's not accepted responsibility
- 15 for his conduct. He's continually tried to minimize and spin
- 16 his involvement and the involvement of others in the conspiracy.
- 17 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 18 Mr. White.
- 19 MR. WHITE: Thank you, very much, Your Honor.
- 20 Judge, with regard to the three aspects, I would agree
- 21 with Mr. Galyon that would appear to be -- well, perhaps let me
- 22 phrase it upon which there was conflicting evidence.
- Judge, I would certainly agree with the Court's
- 24 analysis that the testimony of all of the witnesses was
- 25 extremely credible. It was straightforward and there were no

- 1 contradictions. There was no indication of deception or
- 2 anything of the sort and I would never suggest that there was.
- 3 What I would suggest, Your Honor, is in each instance there was
- 4 a question of perception.
- 5 Judge, with regard, first of all, to the statement to
- 6 Detective Williams regarding the hundred kilograms in the truck,
- 7 30 of which -- payment for 30 of which was in the truck that
- 8 left the scene. Judge, as Detective Williams indicated during
- 9 cross-examination, we went around and around about that during
- 10 the debriefing sessions. Danilo has consistently insisted that
- 11 was a misunderstanding, he didn't mean to say that, he didn't
- 12 say that, and that wasn't part of the thing, yet he went on in
- 13 great detail about other involvement that he had and was very
- 14 thorough in his involvement and the involvement of others
- 15 throughout the course of the conspiracy.
- 16 Jumping a little bit out of order, that brings us to
- 17 the situation involved in the codefendant Mr. Sosa. First of
- 18 all, I don't believe there is any evidence before --
- 19 THE COURT: I'm not going to base a finding on that.
- 20 MR. WHITE: Thank you. Then I won't belabor that
- 21 issue.
- The next statement then, of course, is the testimony
- 23 of Ms. Thilo, who unquestionably, believed, and was -- she was
- 24 in danger, Judge. When we did admit and withdraw any objection
- 25 to that enhancement, it was intended to cover all the conduct;

- 1 the chase and the incident with Ms. Thilo -- Danilo --
- 2 Mr. Quesada, rather, is insistent that he never intended to harm
- 3 that woman, never intended to take her van, and he -- I pressed
- 4 him on that. I said, if there was anything involved there, if
- 5 it was a fleeting moment, idea, it was something you panicked
- 6 and then realized it wasn't a good idea, he said he never
- 7 intended to harm that woman, never intended to take her van.
- 8 He's been insistent on that consistently; yet, he has gone
- 9 through the entire process and been forthright about everything
- 10 else involved in the case, and I would submit, Your Honor, he
- 11 was forthright about that. It was her perception.
- 12 Unquestionably she was in danger, and yet I believe that
- 13 Mr. Quesada-Guerrero never intended to harm that woman.
- 14 Similarly, Judge, he never intended to point the gun
- 15 at the police officer. The police officer said he stopped
- 16 exactly what might have happened, I'm chasing somebody who is
- 17 waving a gun, I'm going to assume he's pointing it at me if it
- 18 comes back at me. Mr. Quesada-Guerrero indicated that he did
- 19 not intend to shoot at the officer.
- 20 Candidly, Judge, if he had intended to shoot at the
- 21 officer, he would have shot at the officer. Similarly, if he
- 22 intended to take the van, he would have taken the van. That was
- 23 the basis for his testimony, he didn't intend to do either of
- 24 those things.
- 25 The last aspect, something I said concerning the

1 officer, Judge, and I completely lost it. I beg the Court's

- 2 pardon.
- 3 Last aspect with regard to the testimony he gave on
- 4 the stand about not being involved in that particular
- 5 transaction. Obviously, Judge, he was involved in the
- 6 transaction. It's a semantic situation, I would suggest to the
- 7 Court that was Arlay's -- that was Arlay's deal. He admitted he
- 8 was helping Arlay. We know being trained in the law that's
- 9 being part of the conspiracy, that makes it just as much his as
- 10 Arlay's, and he drove recklessly, crazily, and we're lucky
- 11 nobody is dead, Judge, there is no question about that. He knew
- 12 it was bad. He didn't know how much it was, and that was the
- 13 basis of the testimony, Judge, it wasn't intent or to minimize
- 14 his involvement. He spent hours, Judge, detailing his
- 15 involvement in this conspiracy, and we urge Your Honor to not
- 16 find obstruction as a result of that.
- 17 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. White.
- 18 I really did not get the impression from Detective
- 19 Williams' testimony, that Mr. Quesada was forthright in
- 20 detailing all of his activity in what took place.
- 21 In hearing the testimony of Ms. Thilo and Corporal
- 22 Gill, I simply can't square that, either with Mr. Quesada's
- 23 testimony or your explanation of a difference in perception.
- 24 There was a reason he was driving over 90 miles an hour in a
- 25 residential area. He was trying to evade the police for a very

- 1 good reason; there was a large quantity of cocaine in his truck.
- 2 He was aware of it. He says that was not his 38, but yet he
- 3 picked it up, he took it with him. Why would you take a gun
- 4 with you, unless you had some intent to use it?
- 5 MR. WHITE: That's what I forgot to address. May I
- 6 address that briefly?
- 7 THE COURT: You certainly may.
- 8 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Judge. Again, I asked him
- 9 about that in some detail as well. I should say
- 10 parenthetically, I've had a chance to talk with him too much. I
- 11 couldn't find him last night, yesterday afternoon. The
- 12 authorities in Alamance said he wasn't there.
- 13 THE COURT: I can't accept your proffer of something.
- 14 If there is further evidence, you may present it, and you may
- 15 certainly argue anything that is in evidence or fairly inferable
- 16 from that, but I can't accept your proffer of testimony that has
- 17 not been offered.
- 18 MR. WHITE: I was getting ready to ask the Court's
- 19 permission to do that. So with that, I will have to sit down.
- 20 THE COURT: I will be glad for you to present further
- 21 evidence.
- 22 MR. WHITE: I don't think that's necessary, Judge.
- 23 Again, the hypothetical theories I more or less set forth on
- 24 Wednesday, that he panicked, he grabbed it to get it out of the
- 25 vehicle, I would reiterate those without proffering.

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1 THE COURT: I have tried to think of a good reason
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- 2 somebody would pick up the gun unless they felt there was some
- 3 reason to use it, or why Ms. Thilo would think she felt a gun in
- 4 her side when she didn't. I don't think that was a matter of
- 5 perception. I think Mr. Quesada did not commandeer the van
- 6 simply because Corporal Gill was yelling at him to get down on
- 7 the ground and throw the gun down.
- 8 I don't know whether he understood what Corporal Gill
- 9 was saying. I did get the perception in watching him testify,
- 10 that he was understanding questions in English before they were
- 11 translated, and sometimes you can tell the way somebody
- 12 swallows, that they are reacting to a statement that's being
- 13 made or a question being asked, and I did get that perception.
- Regardless of that, however, I cannot accept the
- 15 testimony as being truthful or simply a difference of perception
- 16 that he did not intentionally point the firearm at Corporal Gill
- 17 or attempt with the firearm to commandeer the van.
- 18 I do not need to reach the questions about Mr. Sosa.
- 19 I do not find him to be a credible witness. I accept what
- 20 Detective Williams said with regard to the statements that he
- 21 made pertaining to money and amounts of cocaine following his
- 22 arrest.
- 23 I don't think we did address, Mr. White, and if you
- 24 would like to do that, I'll certainly be glad to hear from you,
- 25 why this would be one of those exceptional or extraordinary

1 cases where in the face of a finding of obstruction, he should

- 2 also receive credit for acceptance of responsibility.
- 3 MR. WHITE: If Your Honor please, I would simply point
- 4 out that the nature of the proceeding, in other words, Judge,
- 5 the acceptance of responsibility, he accepted full
- 6 responsibility for the offense conduct with which he's charged;
- 7 the cocaine conspiracy, and the only difference being the
- 8 timing, if you will, of the statement and the fact that there is
- 9 a disagreement as to exactly what his initial statement was with
- 10 regard to the hundred kilograms and payment of 30 kilograms.
- 11 The other situation, the discrepancy with regard to
- 12 the alleged kidnapping, the attempting carjacking, if you will.
- 13 He accepted the points on that situation, Judge. There was no
- 14 objection to the points that were assessed for that conduct,
- 15 along with the high speed chase conduct, so I would submit that
- 16 any misrepresentation there was not material, even though the
- 17 Court obviously has found that there is a discrepancy.
- 18 With regard to the pointing of the gun at the officer,
- 19 again, it is relevant to a sentencing determination question.
- 20 It's a huge enhancement, six level enhancement, and he simply
- 21 contends that it didn't happen and there is not much more I can
- 22 say about that.
- Judge, he not only accepted responsibility for the
- 24 conduct for which he was apprehended, Judge, but he did continue
- 25 to cooperate. There are allegations that he was not as

- 1 forthright as he could have been in the course of that
- 2 cooperation, yet he did give a great deal of information, and
- 3 rode with the detectives located the various locations and did
- 4 provide that kind of response --
- 5 THE COURT: Well, the testimony I remember from
- 6 Detective Williams about that was, except for one place, which
- 7 was a cold place, that statements he made to the officers
- 8 were -- I heard something that cocaine was being sold here, and
- 9 that he never, except for possibly one place, said I know what
- 10 was happening there, I was involved in what was happening there,
- 11 so if that is the case, that does not seem to me to be a
- 12 terribly great effort to cooperate or give information. Maybe
- 13 I'm misunderstanding.
- 14 Did I misunderstand that?
- 15 MR. WHITE: I think with regard to that particular
- 16 testimony, I think that's certainly a fair way to interpret
- 17 Detective Williams' testimony.
- 18 THE COURT: And then I heard him say that Mr. Sosa was
- 19 not involved, that he really was not involved in knowing whether
- 20 money was in the truck or not when it left, or how much cocaine
- 21 had been there, and I heard you say you had gone around and
- 22 around with that, so I infer that's the position he was taking
- 23 when you and he were talking to the officer. So, I'm not sure I
- 24 see exactly what help he was.
- MR. WHITE: Judge, again, in terms of the assistance,

- 1 obviously the Government did not file the motion we had hoped
- 2 they would file in the sentencing, in connection with that, and
- 3 that's within their discretion. We didn't argue that. In terms
- 4 of accepting responsibility, I would say he did accept his
- 5 responsibility, and went above and beyond just saying, yes, I
- 6 did it. He did provide some additional information, by all
- 7 accounts. We think it was a lot more than the Government
- 8 interpreted it as. I think it's certainly sufficient to
- 9 establish acceptance of responsibility.
- 10 THE COURT: Well, what I heard was a denial of much of
- 11 what I thought was shown to be his responsibility, and hearing
- 12 that, it does seem to me, that this cannot be that acceptance,
- 13 or extraordinary case where both would apply, so I do find that
- 14 he should not receive credit for accepting responsibility.
- I have no idea where that all comes out within the
- 16 quideline computation.
- 17 Mr. Miller.
- 18 THE PROBATION OFFICER: Your Honor, with the
- 19 additional two levels for obstruction, that would place him at
- 20 level 46, which under the guidelines would be 43, which is the
- 21 top of the offense levels. No acceptance of responsibility
- 22 would remain at level 46. Guideline range is life, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: Do you agree with that, Mr. White? I'll
- 24 be glad to hear from you if you do.
- 25 MR. WHITE: Only to the extent I've argued until I

- 1 disagree with it, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: You disagree with the finding, but not
- 3 given the finding with the guideline?
- 4 MR. WHITE: I believe the total offense level was 41,
- 5 Judge, as originally calculated adding the two levels takes it
- 6 to 43, adding three additional levels for subtracting or
- 7 negative, negative, does it take it to 46, Your Honor.
- 8 THE COURT: And you agree with what Mr. Miller has
- 9 said, Mr. Galyon?
- 10 MR. GALYON: Yes, sir.
- 11 THE COURT: Mr. Galyon, is it your position, that
- 12 Mr. Quesada is deserving of no consideration for whatever
- 13 cooperation he may have given, which would equate to a sentence
- 14 of less than life?
- 15 MR. GALYON: Your Honor, that is correct. And, I
- 16 would take that position based on both the evidence that you
- 17 heard yesterday or on Wednesday with respect to this Defendant's
- 18 information and the fact that none of the information that he
- 19 gave about being at locations, save and except one of those
- 20 locations was information based on his personal knowledge, and
- 21 then beyond that, that the location that he gave information
- 22 about, the officers have not been able to do anything based on
- 23 that.
- 24 Then of course with respect to the codefendant, I
- 25 think that was particularly telling, that even though initially

1 he gave information about the involvement of Mr. Sosa Dominguez,

- 2 his later recantation of that, which he continued with on
- 3 Wednesday, that Mr. Sosa Dominguez didn't know anything about
- 4 it. Again, I just don't think that that squares with the
- 5 evidence as well as with his prior statement.
- 6 So, you know, I understand it's a harsh sentence, but
- 7 I don't see any reason to provide or say that there is a basis
- 8 for the Court to depart downward, based on his efforts early on.
- 9 So that would be my position.
- 10 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.
- 11 Mr. White.
- 12 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Your Honor. Judge, again, I
- 13 agree with Mr. Galyon that is a harsh sentence, and of course
- 14 looking at the 3553 factors, the Court does need to consider the
- 15 propriety of the sentence in light of all of the circumstances.
- 16 Obviously, Judge, Mr. Quesada has been involved in a
- 17 drug conspiracy of some length and some duration, and he stands
- 18 facing very, very serious punishment for that. The punishment,
- 19 based on the Court's findings of his testimony Wednesday and
- 20 today, has increased that punishment from a sentence roughly 32
- 21 years low end of the guideline range to life in prison. I
- 22 submit, Your Honor, that enhancement is disproportionate to the
- 23 actual conduct which resulted, in light of all of the factors.
- Judge, I would like to call your attention to some
- 25 more positive aspects of the presentence report. Mr. Quesada

- 1 came to this country about ten years ago and he came here not
- 2 involved in a drug conspiracy, to become involved in a drug
- 3 conspiracy. He's hardworking. You can see he worked for five
- 4 years at Pegram West, worked at other businesses, construction,
- 5 restaurant industries and ended up owning his own club with
- 6 another gentleman at the time this conduct started, whether
- 7 there is a relationship there, Judge, I don't know, but he has
- 8 always been hardworking.
- 9 He has four children. He has strong support in the
- 10 community. His wife is here. He was separated from his wife at
- 11 the time of this incident. They have reconciled and come
- 12 together in part because of this adversity he's been facing. He
- 13 has close friends in the community, in the business community.
- 14 As well as helping him get started, they were here Wednesday.
- 15 They are here today. His children are here and, Judge, you
- 16 certainly recall when he was testifying, and I insensitively
- 17 asked him to identify his family members here, he became
- 18 emotional, walked off the stand, literally couldn't finish that
- 19 answer. Judge, that's indicative of what I would characterize
- 20 as, in my personal experience, perhaps the largest disparity
- 21 between offense conduct and the person I've come to know sitting
- 22 next to me. It is remarkable.
- These people are loving, supportive, caring, came
- 24 forward to see me on a regular basis. We've become friends
- 25 almost -- we would be friends, trying to establish a

1 professional relationship, keeping it such, same with

- 2 Mr. Quesada.
- 3 He did, again, provide as much assistance as I think
- 4 he could. We would contend the main actor in this conspiracy
- 5 escaped that day. Mr. Quesada knew there was no way that he
- 6 could make contact with him, in light of the fact that he was
- 7 apprehended, and that was a given and that, again, went through
- 8 and through. Should he be apprehended, Mr. Quesada would come
- 9 forward and would -- he would hopefully have a chance to address
- 10 that at another time.
- 11 Judge, to sentence this 35 year old young man to life
- 12 is obviously what the guidelines call for, and this is serious
- 13 conduct. I would urge Your Honor, however, to fashion a
- 14 sentence more along the lines of the original recommendation in
- 15 the presentence report, or even less, Judge, because putting
- 16 this man -- Judge, putting this man on probation would probably
- 17 be sufficient punishment, the way he's conducted himself and the
- 18 way this has impacted his family. Obviously I wouldn't suggest
- 19 that the Court do that with any sort of credible fashion, but to
- 20 sentence him to life, Judge, is simply way, way more than is
- 21 necessary to punish this guy.
- THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. White.
- 23 Mr. Quesada, I would be glad to hear anything that you
- 24 would like to say at this time.
- THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: Is there anything that you would like to

- 2 say?
- 3 THE DEFENDANT: I would like to tell you everything
- 4 from the beginning to see if you can understand it.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 THE DEFENDANT: When I was stopped, I stopped. When
- 7 the police stopped me, in a span of 30 seconds, Arlay told me
- 8 they want to arrest me. He took out the gun and he had it in
- 9 his hand. He said, hurry, press, you know, start running fast
- 10 and don't stop, and that's what I did. Driving fast.
- 11 During that time that we were driving fast, I told him
- 12 to get out of the car. He said, no, they are going to arrest
- 13 me. So Amado Sosa said if you don't stop -- stop, because I
- 14 want to get out, and he had the gun in his hand and he said
- 15 nobody stops, because they are going to arrest me.
- 16 During that time was when we had the crash and he
- 17 dropped the gun and I took it because I wanted to throw it out,
- 18 and I knew he had a backpack and I only saw that.
- 19 So when we crashed, we started running and I took the
- 20 gun because I thought there was nothing else, and I wanted to
- 21 get that gun out of the car. When I started running, I did hide
- 22 behind the van. When I hid behind the van, I had not seen the
- 23 woman. She did see me and that's when she screamed. I had not
- 24 pointed the gun at her or anything, and at that moment, I said,
- 25 The police is coming, and I started running again.

1 The only thing I did was to run, run. I never pointed

- 2 the gun at the policeman. With Mr. Williams, I did tell him the
- 3 money that was in the truck, because Arlay had told me that, but
- 4 I never said anything about something being in the trailer. It
- 5 is possible that he's confusing the trailer and the truck.
- 6 Everything I told him has been recorded and he can listen to it.
- 7 He recorded everything and he could show it, present it, the
- 8 recording.
- 9 THE COURT: Is there anything else that you would like
- 10 to say?
- 11 THE DEFENDANT: I'm just -- I feel a little
- 12 overwhelmed, and I can't think of anything else to say.
- 13 THE COURT: Well, would you like additional time?
- 14 Would you like for us to take a break?
- THE DEFENDANT: No. I'm fine.
- 16 THE COURT: I hear what you say. It's difficult to
- 17 believe that version as you describe it, that somebody who would
- 18 threaten you with a firearm would just leave it in the truck
- 19 when it crashed, and that you, who had been threatened, would
- 20 then pick it up for the purpose of doing something else with it,
- 21 and then the other people would misperceive your actions as they
- 22 did.
- 23 THE DEFENDANT: I'm sorry, I didn't say that Arlay was
- 24 threatening me with the gun. He just had it in his hand and he
- 25 just said hurry up, because they want to arrest me.

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               THE COURT: In examining the 3553(a) factors, I really
     do not find any that make me feel a sentence less than the
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     advisory guideline range would be appropriate. I wish I did.
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     There is nothing about imposing a life sentence that I find
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     attractive or something that I want to do, but it is determined
     in this case, that Mr. Quesada be committed to the custody of
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     the Bureau of Prisons for the period of his natural life under
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     Count One. While it sounds certainly inconsistent, a period of
     60 months to run consecutively under Count Three, with a period
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     of supervised release of five years under Count One, to run
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     concurrently with three years under Count Three, with the
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12
     special condition, should you be deported following release,
     should you be released from the Bureau of Prisons, Mr. Quesada,
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14
     you may not re-enter the United States during that period
     without first getting permission from the Secretary of Homeland
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16
     Security to do so, to ever come back, even after that five year
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     period, would subject you to prosecution under a different law
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     of the United States, which says once a person has been
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     deported, they may not come back without getting permission, and
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     that statute makes it a more serious offense for somebody who
21
     has been deported after being found guilty of what is known as
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     an aggravated felony. A drug offense such as this would be an
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     aggravated felony, so there would be a stiff penalty that you
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     would be subjected to if you came back at any time, but if you
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came back within that five year period of supervised release,

- 1 then there would be two different periods of imprisonment that
- 2 you would be facing, which you could not serve together. You
- 3 would have to serve one and finish service of that before you
- 4 could begin service of the other.
- 5 It is determined that a fine would work an undue
- 6 hardship, certainly in view of the sentence that was imposed.
- 7 The \$200 special assessment may be paid through the
- 8 financial responsibility unit of the prison facility where you
- 9 are sent to serve your time.
- 10 MR. WHITE: I have that. We can take care of that
- 11 today.
- 12 THE COURT: You, of course, have the right to appeal.
- 13 An appeal would have to be filed within ten days of the time
- 14 judgment is entered. If not, you would waive your right to
- 15 appeal, so talk with Mr. White, and he will be glad to file that
- 16 notice on your behalf. You will do that?
- MR. WHITE: Of course, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: With regard to a destruction order? Since
- 19 Mr. Quesada claims that was not his firearm, would there be any
- 20 objection to it being destroyed?
- 21 MR. WHITE: No standing to make such an objection,
- 22 Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: So at the conclusion of the period for
- 24 appeals, it is ordered that insofar as Mr. Quesada is concerned,
- 25 that he makes no claim either to the firearm or the drugs and

1 they may be destroyed insofar as they are not being held for

- 2 evidence or as property of someone.
- 3 Thank you, Mr. White.
- 4 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Your Honor. In light of the
- 5 other issues we discussed, I don't know if I moved to dismiss
- 6 Count Two. I will make that motion, if I haven't already done
- 7 so.
- 8 THE COURT: Count Two is dismissed.
- 9 Do you have anything further, Mr. Galyon?
- 10 MR. GALYON: I think the only other thing would be a
- 11 request as to destruction of the drugs, in addition to the
- 12 firearms.
- 13 THE COURT: I included that with the firearms.
- 14 MR. GALYON: There was the one firearm that was,
- 15 "his," and I wanted to make sure we got a destruction order as
- 16 to that. There were two SKS's that were found beside the Titan.
- 17 I would request as to all of the firearms, that those be
- 18 destroyed at the end of the appellate period.
- 19 THE COURT: Is there an objection, Mr. White,
- 20 Mr. Quesada, with regard to the destruction order with regard to
- 21 any of the firearms?
- MR. WHITE: No, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: You agree with that, Mr. Quesada?
- 24 THE DEFENDANT: Uh-huh.
- 25 THE COURT: The destruction order will include the two

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1 SKS rifles, the 25 caliber pistol and the 38.
 2
               Thank you.
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               MR. WHITE: Thank you.
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              (This matter was concluded at 10:12 a.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE			
2				
3	I, J. CALHOUN, RPR, United States District Court			
4	Reporter for the Middle District of North Carolina, DO HEREBY			
5	CERTIFY:			
6				
7	That the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of			
8	the proceedings had in the within-entitled action; that I			
9	reported the same to typewriting through the use of			
10	Computer-Aided Transcription.			
11				
12	THIS TRANSCRIPT CERTIFICATION IS VOID, IF THE SIGNATURE			
13	IS NOT ORIGINALLY SIGNED BY THE COURT REPORTER WHO REPORTED			
14	THIS MATTER.			
15				
16				
17	Date: 7/10/08 /s/ J. Calhoun J. Calhoun, RPR			
18	Official Court Reporter			
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